

have you heard the NEWS?

Texas Governor Rick Perry signed into law Chapter 821 Subchapter D., of the State of Texas Health and Safety Code. In accordance with this law, it states an owner may not leave a dog outside and unattended by use of a restraint (a restraint is defined as a chain, rope, tether, leash, cable or other device that attaches a dog to a stationary object or trolley) that unreasonably limits the dog's movement.

EFFECTIVE September 1, 2007

You can make a **DIFFERENCE** in the quality of life for a **NEGLECTED DOG.**

It is now AGAINST THE LAW to:

- RESTRAIN** a dog between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- RESTRAIN** a dog within 500 feet of the premises of a school.
- RESTRAIN** a dog during the following extreme weather conditions -
 - if the actual or effective outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit; or
 - if a heat advisory has been issued by a local or state authority or jurisdiction; or
 - if a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for the jurisdiction by the National Weather Service.
- USE A RESTRAINT** that unreasonably limits a dog's movement, if the restraint uses a collar that is pinch-type, prong-type, or choke-type; or is not properly fitted to the dog; *or*
- USE A RESTRAINT** that is a length shorter than the greater of five times the length of the dog (as measured from the tip of the dog's nose to the base of the dog's tail), or is shorter than 10 feet, is in an unsafe condition, or causes injury to the dog; *or*
- RESTRAIN** a dog for a period exceeding three hours, in a 24-hour period.



It is NOT against the law to:

It is not against the law to restrain a dog to a "zip", trolley or pulley line. Attaching a dog's leash to a long line — such as a clothesline or a manufactured device known as a pulley run — and letting the animal have a larger area in which to explore is preferable to tethering or restraining the dog to a stationary object. However, many of the same problems associated with tethering still apply, including attacks on or by other animals, lack of socialization, and safety.

The failure to correct this violation within twenty-four (24) hours may result in the issuance of a citation and/or additional criminal charges. An offense under this subchapter is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. A person commits an offense if the person violates this subchapter and has been previously convicted of an offense under this subchapter. An offense under this subsection is a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by :

- 1) - a fine, not to exceed \$2,000,
- 2) - confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or
- 3) - both such fine and confinement.



IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS VIOLATING THIS NEW STATE LAW, CONTACT ARLINGTON ANIMAL SERVICES AT 817-459-5898

